

Montana Big Sky Pathways (Programs of Study)

Approval Form 2011-2012

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV) calls for states to offer "career and technical programs of study," known as **Big Sky Pathways** in Montana, as an option to students and their parents when planning for and completing future coursework. These programs, at a minimum, must:

- Incorporate and align secondary and postsecondary education elements,
- Include academic and CTE content in a coordinated, non-duplicative progression of courses,
- Offer the opportunity, where appropriate, for secondary students to acquire postsecondary credits, and
- Lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate or baccalaureate degree.

By my signature on this form, I verify all requirements listed below are completed or addressed within the Big Sky Pathways Proposal. For approval, all 8 requirements must be checked.

Name of Big Sky Pathway (Cluster Level):					
Name of High School:					
Names of High School Lead Teacher & Counselor:					
<i>The Lead High School Teacher will be contacted if OPI has questions about this request.</i> <i>Lead Teacher's email address:</i> _____ <i>Lead Teacher's phone number:</i> _____					
Name of College:					
Name of College Program:					
Name of College Lead Faculty Member:					
REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL		(IP = In Progress)	YES	IP	NO
1.	Includes all state and local graduation requirements preparing students for entry into a postsecondary program or apprenticeship.				
2.	Identifies the appropriate secondary CTE, academic, and recommended elective courses offered by this high school which will prepare the student for college-level courses without remediation.				
3.	Outlines a non-duplicative sequence of courses from grades 9-12 and from secondary to postsecondary education.				
4.	Leads to an industry-recognized postsecondary credential, degree or employment				
5.	Completed "Gap Analysis" with a program offered by a Montana postsecondary institution.				
6.	When applicable, dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate courses and CTE START (Statewide Articulations) opportunities have been identified.				
7.	Pathway curriculum includes appropriate state/national standards and/or industry skills standards. Identify standards used:				
8.	Links with a web-based guidance delivery system such as Montana Career Information System (MCIS). If using something other than MCIS, please indicate:				
<i>High School Principal's Signature:</i>		<i>Date:</i>			
<i>High School CTE Teacher's Signature:</i>		<i>Date:</i>			
<i>High School Counselor's Signature:</i>		<i>Date:</i>			
Please submit this Approval Form with the Big Sky Pathway Proposal to the Big Sky Pathway Coordinator at the College identified above.					
<i>College Chief Academic Officer's Signature:</i>		<i>Date:</i>			
<i>College Lead Faculty Member's Signature:</i>		<i>Date:</i>			
Please submit this Approval Form with the Big Sky Pathway Proposal to OPI, Career and Technical Education, P. O. Box 202501, Helena, MT 59620-2501.					
OPI Approval:		Date of Approval:			
OCHE Approval:		Date of Approval:			